In the Claims:

Claims 1-2 (Canceled).

3. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said polypeptide is a homopolymer of a naturally occurring amino acid.

4. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said polypeptide is a heteropolymer of two or more naturally occurring amino acids.

Claims 5-12 (Canceled).

13. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 further comprising a microencapsulating agent.

14. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 13 wherein said microencapsulating agent is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol (PEG), an amino acid, a sugar and a salt.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).The composition of claim 2 further comprising an adjuvant.

17. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claims 18-19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said composition is in the form of an ingestable tablet.

Claim 21. (Canceled)

22. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said composition is in the form of an oral suspension.

23. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is conformationally protected by folding of said polypeptide about said active agent.

24. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 2 wherein said polypeptide is capable of releasing said active agent from said composition in a pH-dependent manner.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for protecting an analgesic from degradation comprising covalently attaching said active agent to a polypeptide.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for controlling release of an analgesic from a composition wherein said composition comprises a polypeptide, said method comprising covalently attaching said active agent to said polypeptide.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for delivering an analgesic to a patient comprising administering to said patient a composition comprising:

a polypeptide; and

an active agent covalently attached to said polypeptide.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said analgesic is released from said composition by an enzyme-catalyzed release.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28 wherein said analgesic is released in a time-dependent manner based on the pharmacokinetics of said enzyme-catalyzed release.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said composition further comprises a microencapsulating agent and wherein said analgesic is released from said composition by dissolution of said microencapsulating agent.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said analgesic is released from said composition by a pH-dependent unfolding of said polypeptide.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said analgesic is released from said composition in a sustained release.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said composition further comprises an adjuvant covalently attached to said polypeptide and wherein release of said adjuvant from said composition is controlled by said polypeptide.

Claims 34-74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising:

a polypeptide; and

an active agent covalently attached to said polypeptide, wherein said active agent is an antiviral.

76. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 75 wherein said antiviral is selected from the group consisting of abacavir sulfate, Acyclovir, ~~adefovir dipivoxil, alpha-1 proteinase inhibitor,~~ amprenavir, ~~BCX-CW1812~~, didanosine, ~~efavirenz, emivirine, famciclovir,~~ ganciclovir, indinavir sulfate, ~~interferon alfacon-1,~~ lamivudine, ~~lamivudine/zidovudine,~~ nelfinavir mesylate, ~~nevirapine~~nevirapine, ~~pleconaril,~~ ribavirin~~/peginterferon alfa-2b~~, Rimantadine HCl, ritonavir, saquinavir, ~~sevirumab~~sevirumab, stavudine, tenofovir disoproxil, ~~Thymosin alpha,~~ valacyclovir hydrochloride, zalcitabine and zidovudine.

Claims 77-134 (Canceled).

135. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from alanine, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, phenylalanine, proline, aspartic acid, serine, threonine, or tyrosine.

136. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from alanine, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, phenylalanine, proline, aspartic acid, serine, threonine, or tyrosine.

137. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from tyrosine, phenylalanine or isoleucine.

138. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from tyrosine, phenylalanine or isoleucine.

139. (New) The composition of any one of claims 135-138 wherein said amino acid is attached to at least one additional amino acid.

140. (New) The composition of claim 139, wherein said additional amino acid is one or more of the 20 naturally occurring amino acid.

141. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is alanine.

142. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is glycine.

143. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is leucine.

144. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is isoleucine.

145. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is valine.

146. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is phenylalanine.

147. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is proline.

148. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is aspartic acid.

149. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is serine.

150. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is threonine.

151. (New) The composition of claim 135, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is tyrosine.

152. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is alanine.

153. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is glycine.

154. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is leucine.

155. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is isoleucine.

156. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is valine.

157. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is phenylalanine.

158. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is proline.

159. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is aspartic acid.

160. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is serine.

161. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is threonine.

162. (New) The composition of claim 136, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is tyrosine.

163. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from alanine, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, phenylalanine, proline, aspartic acid, serine, threonine, or tyrosine and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

164. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from alanine, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, phenylalanine, proline, aspartic acid, serine, threonine, or tyrosine and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

165. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from tyrosine, phenylalanine or isoleucine and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

166. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of an amino acid wherein said amino acid is selected from tyrosine, phenylalanine or isoleucine and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

167. (New) The composition of any one of claims 163-166 wherein said amino acid is attached to at least one additional amino acid.

168. (New) The composition of claim 167, wherein said additional amino acid is one or more of the 20 naturally occurring amino acid.

169. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is alanine.

170. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is glycine.

171. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is leucine.

172. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is isoleucine.

173. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is valine.

174. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is phenylalanine.

175. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is proline.

176. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is aspartic acid.

177. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is serine.

178. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is threonine.

179. (New) The composition of claim 163, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is tyrosine.

180. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is alanine.

181. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is glycine.

182. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is leucine.

183. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is isoleucine.

184. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is valine.

185. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is phenylalanine.

186. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is proline.

187. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is aspartic acid.

188. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is serine.

189. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is threonine.

190. (New) The composition of claim 164, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is tyrosine.

191. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of glutamic acid wherein said glutamic acid is further attached to at least one additional amino acid selected from arginine, glutamine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, lysine, glycine, alanine, histidine, serine, proline, aspartic acid, threonine cysteine, methionine, leucine, asparagine, isoleucine, valine and mixtures thereof; and wherein

said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

192. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of glutamic acid wherein said glutamic acid is further attached to at least one additional amino acid selected from arginine, glutamine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, lysine, glycine, alanine, histidine, serine, proline, aspartic acid, threonine cysteine, methionine, leucine, asparagine, isoleucine, valine and mixtures thereof; and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

193. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to a carboxyl group of lysine wherein said lysine is further attached to at least one additional amino acid selected from arginine, glutamine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, glutamic acid, glycine, alanine, histidine, serine, proline, aspartic acid, threonine cysteine, methionine, leucine, asparagine, isoleucine, valine and mixtures thereof; and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.

194. (New) A composition comprising zidovudine covalently attached through zidovudine's hydroxyl group to an anime group of lysine wherein said lysine is further attached to at least one additional amino acid selected from arginine, glutamine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, glutamic acid, glycine, alanine, histidine, serine, proline, aspartic acid, threonine cysteine, methionine, leucine, asparagine, isoleucine, valine and mixtures thereof; and wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration and enzymatic release of said active agent into the bloodstream following oral administration.